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NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Bufonidae, *Melanophryniscus moreirae*: Distribution extension.

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Melanophryniscus moreirae (Miranda-Ribeiro, 1920) belongs to the *M. moreirae* group, which is composed by *M. moreirae* and *M. sanmartini* (Cruz and Caramaschi 2003). This species is known only from areas of high altitude (from 1800 to 2400 m a.s.l.) near temporary swamps in the Parque Nacional do Itatiaia, Serra da Mantiqueira, on the border of Rio de Janeiro and Minas Gerais, municipality of Itamonte, state of Minas Gerais (Bokermann 1967; Guix et al. 1998; IUCN 2006), and in the state of São Paulo (Marques et al. 2006). According to the GAA (Global Amphibian Assesment) and IUCN (2006), *M. moreirae* is a very common species within small range, but it appears to have declined recently (Eterovick et al. 2005). Furthermore, it is listed in the NT (Near Threatened) category.

During a field expedition in December 2006 at the municipality of Aiuruoca, state of Minas Gerais, southeastern Brazil (22°03'22" S, 44°40'37" W; 2138 m a.s.l.), we found and collected some specimens of *M. moreirae*. We observed a significant number of individuals in reproductive activity into an open area with shallow water in grass. The collected specimens were deposited at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro anuran collection, Rio de Janeiro (ZUFRJ 9954-9956).

Our present record extends the distribution of *Melanophryniscus moreirae* approximately 35 km NW from the type locality (Parque Nacional do Itatiaia), and 45 km NE from the municipality of Queluz, state of São Paulo (near Pedra da Mina), where it has recently been discovered (Marques et al. 2006).

The species was included in the Red List of the state of Minas Gerais (Bernardes 1998) following recommendation made by Guix et al. (1998), but our findings agree with Marques et al. (2006), suggesting the exclusion of *M. moreirae* of the IUCN threatened species list.

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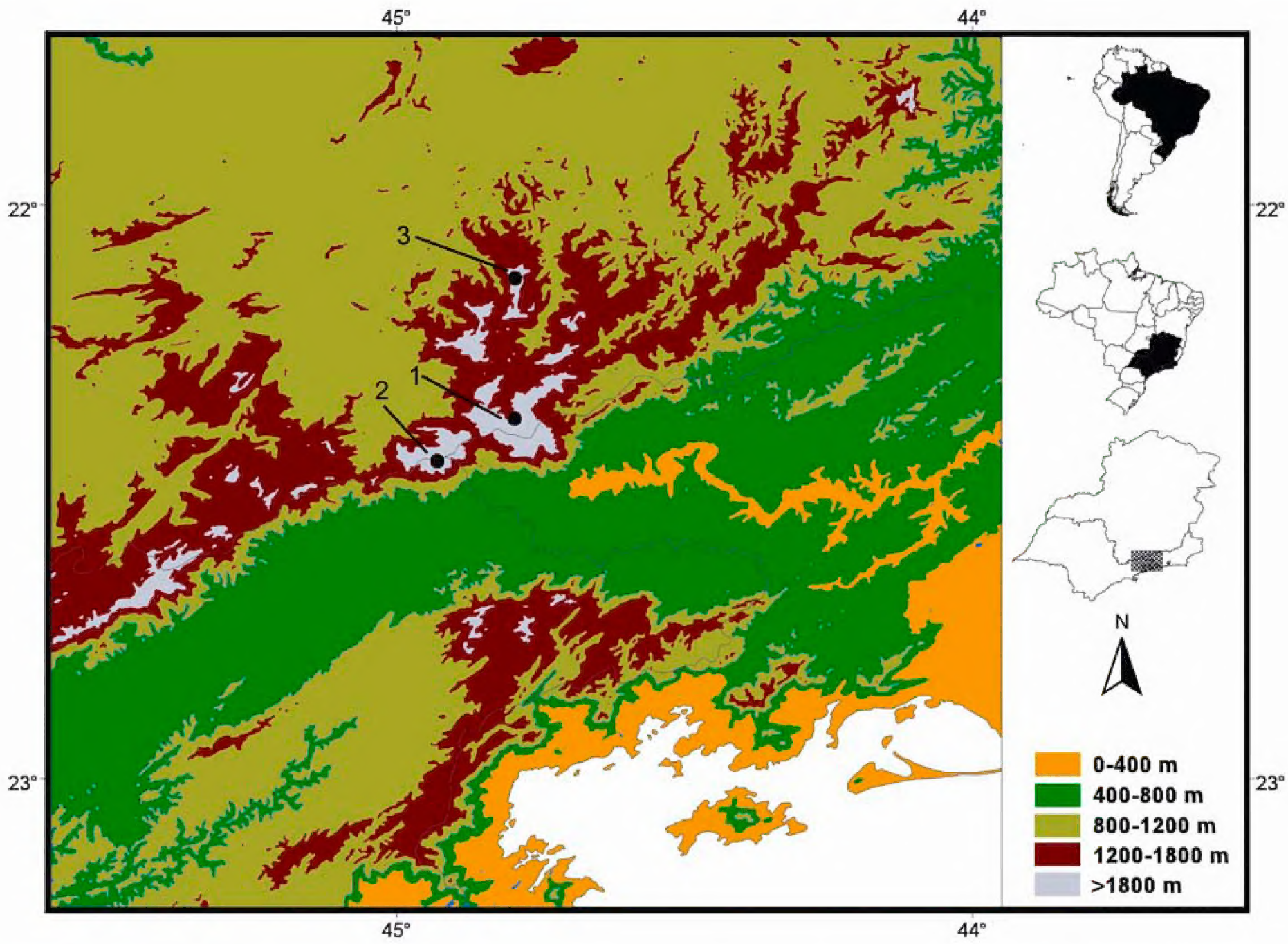

Figure 1. Distribution of *Melanophryniscus moreirae*, showing the records at the Parque Nacional do Itatiaia, municipality of Itamonte, state of Minas Gerais (1); at the municipality of Queluz, near Pedra da Mina, state of São Paulo (2); and the new record at the municipality of Aiuruoca, state of Minas Gerais (3).

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